

DRINKING WATER WARNING

The _____ Water System, ID _____, located in _____ County is contaminated with fecal coliform/ *E. coli* bacteria.

Fecal coliform/ *E. coli* bacteria were detected/confirmed in the water supply on _____. These bacteria can make you sick and are a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems.

DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST. Bring all water to a boil, let it boil 3 – 5 minutes, and let it cool before using. Boiled or purchased bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation until *further notice*. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.

Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems. The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice. People at increased risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider.

What happened? What is the suspected or known source of contamination?

The following is being done to correct the problem:

We have consulted with the Washington State Department of Health about this incident. We will notify you when you no longer need to boil the water. We anticipate resolving the problem by _____.

For more information, please contact _____ at () ____ - ____ or at _____.
(owner or operator) (phone number) (address)

Please share this notice with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distribution copies by hand or mail.

This notice is sent to you by _____ Water System on ____/____/____